



MEMORANDUM

TO: Southwest Washington Regional Transportation Council Board of Directors
FROM: Matt Ransom, Executive Director 
DATE: August 26, 2014
SUBJECT: **2035 Regional Transportation Plan Update: Draft Project List**

AT A GLANCE - Discussion

The Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) for Clark County is being updated in 2014 to comply with federal requirements and to ensure continued consistency between federal, state, regional and local plans. This agenda item addresses the draft listings of projects to be considered for identification in the updated RTP, contingent on results of the transportation performance analysis and the RTP's financial plan capacity.

INTRODUCTION

The Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) for Clark County is the long-range transportation plan for this region. Regular RTP update is needed to maintain consistency between state, regional, and local plans and is a condition for receipt of federal transportation funds to this region. Identifying project needs in the RTP is a prerequisite for programming of federal funds for selected projects in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for Clark County. TIP projects must come from an RTP that is compliant with federal laws. The existing Plan was adopted by the RTC Board in December 2011. The RTP update now underway will have a horizon year of 2035.

The purpose of this agenda item is to provide additional draft project information and to continue opportunities for discussion of identified projects began at the August RTC Board meeting.

RTP: 2035 PRELIMINARY PROJECT LISTS

The RTP and Growth Management comprehensive planning processes require that the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) work with local planning partners to identify transportation projects to be included in the “fiscally constrained” RTP. The Growth Management Act also requires that there be consistency of project lists between state, regional and local plans.

As explained at the August meeting, a major task in this 2014 RTP update is to incorporate projects included in the latest versions of local jurisdiction Capital Facilities Plans and to ensure the RTP continues to be aligned with Washington State's transportation plans such as the Washington Transportation Plan (WTP 2030, adopted in December 2010), Highway System Plan 2007-2026 (November 2007) and Target Zero: Strategic Highway Safety Plan (December 2013).

Over the past weeks, RTC staff has worked with local partners to compile a preliminary list of RTP projects from the local jurisdictions' Capital Facilities Plans and Transportation Improvement Programs, and from WSDOT and C-TRAN plans.

Federal Funding Program Requirement:

- To be considered eligible for Federal transportation grant funding, a Project must be identified in the adopted Regional Transportation Plan before grant funds can be programmed in the Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program.

Criteria for Listing Projects in RTP:

- Purpose and need for identified transportation project (e.g. safety, capacity, urban upgrade, system management, demand management, preservation)
- Projects identified by state or local jurisdictions and transportation agencies in state plans, transit plans, local Capital Facilities Plans, local Transportation Improvement Programs and/or local Traffic Impact Fee project lists
- Fiscally-constrained projects
- Projects that could be constructed/implemented within the 20-year RTP timeframe (*funding contingent*)

The RTP's primary focus is on regional transportation system projects, though local projects also have to be identified for inclusion in the regional travel forecast model and for transportation financial planning purposes.

Draft RTP Project Lists:

Attached with this Memo are five draft RTP project lists for the Board's review:

1. Projects Completed Since 2011 RTP
2. Fully Funded Projects
3. Regional Projects to be Identified in the 2014 RTP update
4. Local Projects to be Identified in the 2014 RTP update
5. Projects Deleted/Omitted by Jurisdiction: differences between 2011 MTP and 2014 RTP

Additional explanation is provided overleaf.

1. Projects Completed Since 2011 RTP

Since adoption of the last RTP update in December 2011, several significant regional transportation system capital improvement projects have been completed or have proceeded to design and construction. Many of the major regional transportation projects have received funding through the state's "Nickel" and Partnership packages. Significant projects completed since 2011 include: the SR-500/St. John's Interchange Project, the SR-14 Camas-Washougal Widening and Interchange Project and the Salmon Creek Interchange Project. Projects completed since the last MTP update in 2011 are accounted for and will be deleted from the RTP project list with the 2014 RTP update. These completed projects amount to over \$321 million in project costs.

2. Fully Funded Projects

Some projects listed in the RTP (2011) are now fully committed and funded, and these amount to over \$205 million in project cost estimates and include significant projects such as widening of SR-502 from I-5 to Battle Ground, already underway, and the south half of the I-205/18th Street Interchange to go to construction in 2015.

3. Regional Projects to be Identified in the 2014 RTP Update (Draft List)

The RTP's prime focus is on the regional transportation system. This list includes projects that are part of the RTP's Designated Regional Transportation System.

4. Local Projects to be Identified in the 2014 RTP Update (Draft List)

As previously stated, local projects also have to be identified in the RTP to ensure consideration in the regional travel forecast model and for transportation financial planning purposes.

5. Projects Deleted/Omitted by Jurisdiction: Differences Between 2011 MTP and 2014 RTP

The list of projects deleted or omitted by jurisdiction reveals key differences between the 2011 RTP and the draft 2014 RTP. These are projects that are either redundant or which jurisdictions feel they can no longer fund within the 20 year timeframe. While the list of these deleted/omitted projects will not be identified in the 2014 update to the RTP, it is interesting to note the changes jurisdictions are making in their Capital Facilities Plans.

2035 Regional Transportation Plan Update: Draft Project List

August 26, 2014

Page 4

The table below provides a summary of comparisons between the RTP project list included in the Plan adopted in December 2011 and the draft RTP project lists to be included in the 2014 RTP update). The draft summary table below has been edited since the Board’s August meeting as a result of further draft project list review by planning staff.

COMPARISON OF RTP PROJECT LISTS: RTP 2011 vs Draft RTP 2014 (DRAFT; August 26, 2014)

	RTP 2011 (adopted Dec. 2011)		RTP 2014 (Draft, 8/26/14)
Regional Projects Completed Since 2007 RTP	\$ 258,344,549	Regional Projects Completed Since 2011 RTP	\$ 258,344,549
Local Projects Completed Since 2007 RTP	\$ 63,152,516	Local Projects Completed Since 2011 RTP	\$ 63,152,516
Regional & Local Projects Completed Since 2007 RTP	\$ 321,497,065	Regional & Local Projects Completed Since 2011 RTP	\$ 321,497,065
		<i>In addition, WSDOT has completed or obligated 13 TSMO/ATIS projects at a total cost of \$8,391,236</i>	
	RTP 2011 (adopted Dec. 2011)		RTP 2014 (Draft, 8/26/14)
Fully Funded Projects (Regional)	\$ 448,587,000		\$ 169,304,000
Fully Funded Projects (Local)	\$ 28,024,000		\$ 36,089,706
Fully Funded Projects (Regional and Local)	\$ 476,611,000		\$ 205,393,706
RTP Projects (Regional)	\$ 2,843,617,200		\$ 1,805,609,883
RTP Projects (Local)	\$ 1,073,703,930		\$ 910,128,008
RTP Projects (Regional and Local)	\$ 3,917,321,130		\$ 2,715,737,891
Projects Deleted/Omitted (between RTP 2011 and RTP 2014)	N/A		\$ 1,230,264,100

NEXT STEPS

RTC staff will continue to work with local jurisdictions and partner agencies to complete the updated regional travel forecast model and analysis of system performance and to refine transportation solutions to be incorporated into the fiscally constrained RTP update. RTC staff will report back to the RTC Board at the October meeting.

Attachments: Draft RTP Project List Worksheets